

## **WATER RULE 5**

### **RENDERING AND PAYMENT OF BILLS**

#### **A. GENERAL**

Water meters shall be read as nearly as possible at regular intervals. Such regular meter readings normally shall be monthly but may be at other intervals as established at the direction of the Utility. If for any reason water service is not metered, or if the meter is inaccessible or cannot be read, or if the meter fails to register correctly, the CCF (100 cubic feet) consumption shall be estimated by the Utility as follows:

1. Previous consumption by metered service to the Premises; or
2. The average consumption for the corresponding billing periods during which the meter is known to have registered correctly; or
3. The consumption as registered by a substituted meter; or
4. By giving consideration to the nature of use, volume or business, seasonal demand, and any other factors that may assist in determining such consumption.

#### **B. PRORATION OF BILLS**

Rate schedules stated on a monthly basis are related to a 30-day consumption interval as a standard month. Whenever actual meter read intervals differ from a standard 30-day period, bills computed from monthly schedules will be subject to a proration on a 30-day basis. In computing and rendering regular bills, minor variances between actual read intervals and any established regular read interval need not be considered in accordance with the following:

1. Where bills are regularly rendered monthly, computation from monthly rate schedules may be made directly whenever actual read intervals do not vary by more than four 4 days (greater or lesser) from the standard 30-day interval.
2. On opening accounts, the Water Utility may omit the initial billing when such billing period is less than four 7 days on monthly accounts.

#### **C. READINGS OF SEPARATE WATER METERS NOT COMBINED**

For the purpose of computing charges, each water meter upon the Customer's Premises shall be considered separately, and readings of two or more meters shall not be combined as equivalent to measurement through one meter.

**D. TIME AND MANNER OF PAYING BILLS**

Bills are due and payable on presentation and become delinquent 19 days after billing. After a bill is past due, the Water Utility may discontinue water service and turn-off the water after giving appropriate written notice in accordance with Water Rule No. 7 and California Law.

**E. RETURN CHECK OR DRAFT**

The City of Riverside will assess a return item charge for a check, draft, or credit card payment that is returned from the bank for any reason. If the check was returned for payment on a prior 48-hour notice of disconnection, service may be terminated without further notice.

**F. PENALTY FOR NONPAYMENT OF BILL**

The City of Riverside will assess a basic penalty for nonpayment of a bill of not more than 10 percent of each month's charges for the first month delinquent, and, for all subsequent months delinquent, an additional penalty of not exceeding one-half of 1 percent per month for the nonpayment of the charges and the basic penalty.